

## Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PA-01 AID-05 AGR-05 CU-02 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06

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R 171205Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2436

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, NI, ECOM

1. AMBASSADOR EASUM, DCM CROSBY AND KADUNA CONSUL BURKE SPENT DECEMBER 12-16 TOURING NORTH CENTRAL AND KANO STATES. PURPOSE OF VISITS WAS TO TALK WITH PERSONNEL AND FAMILIES OF KADUNA CONSULATE AND KANO USIS, MEET WITH OTHER AMERICANS IN CONSULAR DISTRICT, CALL ON STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND TRADITIONAL RULERS, AND OBSERVE SALLAH CEREMONIES AND DURBAR FESTIVITIES OF TRADITIONAL EID-EL KABIR RELIGIOUS CELEBRATIONS. HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED PALACE CALLS ON EMIRS OF KANO, ZARIA AND KATSINA AND ATTENDANCE AT KATSINA SALLAH CEREMONIES AS INVITED GUESTS OF EMIR.

2. VISITS INCLUDED INSPECTION OF 300-ROOM DURBAR HOTEL NEARING COMPLETION IN KADUNA, BUILT TO HOLIDAY INN SPECIFICATIONS BY DOYLE SAVAGE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY OF MEMPHIS. TOUR OF VETERINARY AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL FACILITIES AT AMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY AND CALL ON NEW VICE-CHANCELLOR WERE ARRANGED BY US FACULTY UNDER AID CONTRACT WITH KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY.

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3. USEFUL CONVERSATIONS WERE HELD IN KADUNA WITH NORTH CENTRAL

STATE MILITARY GOVERNOR LT. COL. JIBRIN AND OTHER N.C. STATE OFFICIALS. WE MET IN KANO WITH KANO STATE COMMISSIONERS OF FINANCE AND OF COOPS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY, AS WELL AS WITH SECRETARY TO MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN GOVERNOR'S ABSENCE.

4. SALIENT IMPRESSION VISITORS TO THESE TWO STATES RECEIVE IS THAT OF PROUD AND CONFIDENT HAUSA-FULANI NORTH WHERE TRADITIONAL VALUES OF RICH HISTORIC CULTURE STILL HOLDING THEIR OWN AGAINST MODERN WAYS. ATTITUDE TOWARD NEW FMG REGIME IN LAGOS APPEARS TO BE ONE OF QUIET ACCEPTANCE COMBINED WITH WAIT-AND-SEE APPROACH TO SUCH FEDERAL ISSUES AS CREATION OF NEW STATES, PROGRESSION TOWARD CIVILIAN RULE, FEDERAL CAPITAL SITE, ETC. MAJOR CONCERNS IN NORTH REMAIN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL ADVANCE "TO CATCH UP WITH THE SOUTH." NEW STATE GOVERNMENT BUREAUCRACIES APPEAR EAGER AND EARNEST BUT STILL VERY MUCH IN SHAKE-DOWN PERIOD AND NOT YET OPERATING SMOOTHLY. REVIEW OF STATE DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND REASSESSMENT OF THEIR PRIORITIES IS MUCH TALKED ABOUT BUT ONE GETS IMPRESSION OF SLOW PROGRESS EVEN IN THESE TWO STATES WHERE POSSIBILITY OF CREATION OF NEW STATES RELATIVELY SLIGHT. WE UNDERSTAND THAT DEVELOPMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION IN NORTH EAST STATE, WHICH MAY DIVIDE INTO THREE, IS VIRTUALLY AT STANDSTILL.

5. IN ALL CONVERSATIONS WE SENSED A WARMTH TOWARD AMERICANS AND SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL WELCOME FOR US ENTERPRISE AND CLOSER US-NIGER-IAN COLLABORATION. WITH EXCEPTION OF FOOD MACHINERY CORPORATION (SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA), LITTLE EVIDENCE OF SIGNIFICANT US ECONOMIC ENDEAVOR CURRENTLY ACTIVE IN THIS REGION. (FMC COMPLETING FOUR FEASIBILITY STUDIES IN IRRIGATED PRODUCTION OF GRAINS, VEGETABLES AND FIBERS.) KANO STATE OFFICIALS SEEMED PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN PURSUING POSSIBLE US ROLE IN PROVIDING EXPERT MANPOWER NEEDS, AND MINISTRY OF COOPS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY WILL PREPARE WRITTEN EVALUATION FOR DISCUSSION WITH CONSUL BURKE IN KANO IN JANUARY. NORTH CENTRAL STATE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE ATTENDING SALLAH AT KATSINA SPECIFICALLY SOUGHT OUT AMBASSADOR AND REQUESTED FUTURE IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS IN KADUNA CONCERNING US ROLE IN STATE'S AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.

6. STATE TELEVISION NETWORKS RAN USEFUL COVERAGE OF PARTY'S VISIT TO KATSINA, AND AMBASSADOR GAVE QUESTION-ANSWER INTERVIEW FOR KADUNA RADIO.

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EASUM

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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